REMARKS

This is a preliminary amendment prior to a first Action in the above-entitled application. Minor amendment is made to the claims in the interest of clarity and consistency and to improve their form. No new matter is introduced.

It is respectfully requested that this amendment be entered, and an early notice of allowance is hereby solicited.

No fee is believed due for this paper. However, the Commissioner is authorized to respectively charge or credit deposit account 03 0678 for any under or overpayments in connection with this paper.

FIRST CLASS CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on the date set forth below with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to:

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria VA 22313-1450

ance Speedel January, 200

Janice Spéidel Date

#277563 v1

Respectfully submitted, Wolfram Glauert et al.

By William Squire, Reg. No. 25,378 Attorney for Applicants

CARELLA, BYRNE, BAIN, GILFILLAN, CECCHI, STEWART & OLSTEIN

5 Becker Farm Road Roseland, NJ 07068

Tel. No.: (973) 994-1700 Fax No.: (973) 994-1744